



Rooting Out Offense

We can become so easily offended, and sad to say...Christians can be some of the most easily offended! This shouldn't be since we have the key to unlocking the answers to the questions of how to handle situations, conversation and people.

- Circle Time: Share about a time that you had conflict with someone and resolved it.
 - What steps did you take? How did it affect your relationship with the other person?
- Do you know anyone who lives their lives always offended? Have you noticed how living offended has affected them?
 - How has it affected their attitude? How has it affected their family? How has it affected their relationships?
- What is your normal process for resolving offense?
- Read Matthew 15:18-17.
 - Compare and contrast your approach from the steps outline for us in Matthew
 - What is the purpose for each specific step?
 - What are some steps that Matthew describes that you need to add to your own process?
- What do you do when these steps don't bring their intended results?
- Much of Dave's teaching centered around how to keep from being offended. What are some disciplines you practice that keep you slow to anger?
- Read Proverbs 9:11.
 - In a world that tells us to be offended. Why is it wise and glorious to overlook a person's offense?
 - What are reasons this can be tough to do?
- Read Proverbs 17:9.
 - The world teaches us to meet offense with offense. How does this proverb instruct otherwise?
 - Share a time someone purposefully tried to offend you but you responded with love.
 - What are the reasons love is more powerful than offense?
 - How do we discipline ourselves to make love our primary response to offense?